

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY DACCA

S E C R E T STATE 001241

STADIS//////////

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MILI, BG, US

SUBJECT: U.S. MILITARY ATTACHE OFFICE IN DACCA

REF: DACCA 6360

1. WITH REGARD TO REQUEST OF GENERAL ZIA THAT U.S. MILITARY ATTACHE BE ASSIGNED DACCA, FOLLOWING IS FOR POST'S INFORMATION: DEPARTMENT HAS AGAIN REVIEWED QUESTION OF ESTABLISHING DEFENSE ATTACHE OFFICE IN DACCA AND HAS AGREED TO ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICE PROVIDED CONDITIONS LISTED BELOW ARE MET. ALL INTERESTED USG AGENCIES HAVE BEEN INFORMED OF CONDITIONS, BUT WE DO NOT YET HAVE FULL CLEARANCE.

2. CONDITIONS OUTLINED FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF DEFENSE ATTACHE OFFICE ARE AS FOLLOWS: (A) OFFICE SHOULD BE SMALL (ONE OFFICER, ONE NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICER, AND A BANGALEE DRIVER) IN ACCORD WITH OUR DESIRE TO CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN A LOW PROFILE AND LIMITED INVOLVEMENT IN BANGLADESH'S

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AFFAIRS; (B) DEFENSE ATTACHE SHOULD DO NOTHING DIRECTLY OR

INDIRECTLY TO ENCOURAGE BDG INTEREST IN U.S. ARMS SUPPLY,
AND SHOULD NOT DISCUSS ARMS SALES OR PROCUREMENT FROM U.S.
SOURCES EXCEPT AT THE SPECIFIC DIRECTION OF AMBASSADOR AND
WITH HIS PRIOR APPROVAL; (C) DEFENSE ATTACHE SHOULD NOT BE
SENT TO DACCA PRIOR TO JUNE 1, 1976.

3. SUGGEST YOU RESPOND TO ZIA'S REQUEST BY SAYING THAT
QUESTION OF ASSIGNMENT OF MILITARY ATTACHE IS UNDER CON-
SIDERATION AND THAT IT POSSIBLE YOU MAY HAVE MORE DEFINITE
INFORMATION FOR HIM IN A FEW WEEKS. WE WILL KEEP POST
INFORMED. INGERSOLL

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